



# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

## Office of the City Administrator

**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Council Members  
**From:** Penelope Culbreth Graft, DPA, City Administrator  
**Submitted by:** Patricia A. Dapkus, Department Analyst, Sr.  
**Date:** February 22, 2005  
**Subject:** *C-Item: Membership in the Orange County Division of the League of California Cities*

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At the City Council meeting of February 7, staff was asked to outline the benefits the city receives from maintaining membership in the Orange County Division of the League of California Cities (the Division).

Over the 70 years since its inception, the Orange County Division has grown beyond the traditional role of League Divisions. Today the Orange County Division is, "the only independent, self-funded Division in California. The Division, like the League of California Cities, was founded on the principal that locally elected officials can best decide how to provide critical local services."

In that role, the Division has advocated on behalf of its cities on legislation. It maintains lobbying representation in both Washington, D.C. and Sacramento and, as needed, Division representatives have traveled to both Capitols to meet firsthand with legislators. During this past year, the Division was also critical in providing education on Proposition 1A.

In addition to coordinating advocacy efforts on behalf of Orange County cities, the Division prides itself on providing educational opportunities for its members through speakers at the general membership meetings. The Division has also developed, and annually sponsors, the Orange County Leadership Symposium and other special educational opportunities for its members.

Beyond these activities, Division staff is responsible for coordinating meetings and providing staff support for the Executive Steering Committee, the City Managers Committee, the City Selection Committee, and the Orange County Council of Governments.

The **City Selection Committee** is a legal entity separate from the Division. The Committee makes appointments to boards, commissions, and agencies as prescribed by state law when action by all cities within the county is required. They are responsible for appointing an Orange County Cities' representative to the following regional bodies:

- Orange County Airport Land Use Commission,
- CAL-ID Remote Access Network Board,
- Orange County Harbors, Beaches and Parks Commission,

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- Orange County Local Area Formation Commission (LAFCO),
- Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA),
- South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD),
- Orange County Supplemental Law Enforcement Oversight Committee, and
- San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers & Mountains Conservancy.

The **Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG)** is a voluntary association representing local governmental agencies throughout the County including the 34 cities and 20 special districts. It is a sub-region of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), and it is supported through in-kind contributions and project specific grants from SCAG and the Federal Government.

The **Division President** is responsible for making two appointments to each of the eight State League's policy committees. At the present time, Council Members Cook and Green hold appointments made by the Division President. These are to the Administrative Services Policy Committee and the Environmental Quality Policy Committee respectively. The President also appoints a representative to the Orange County Preparedness Planning Council. Council Member Cook also serves on the Division Executive Steering Committee as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.

The **general membership** of the Division elects representatives to the following **Orange County** commissions, boards, and committees:

- Emergency Medical Care Committee,
- Housing & Community Development Commission,
- Human Relations Commission,
- Operational Area Executive Board,
- Senior Citizens Advisory Council,
- Waste Management Commission, and
- City Engineers Flood Control Advisory Committee.

At the present time, Council Member Green holds the Division seat for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisory District on the Waste Management Commission, and Bob Beardsley holds the Division seat for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Supervisory District on the City Engineers Flood Control Advisory Committee.

The general membership of the Division also elects district representatives for those districts of SCAG that encompass more than one Orange County city. Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Huntington Beach are in single city SCAG districts.

The Division notes among their accomplishment in the past year:

- Coordination of legislative efforts on bills such as AB 1221, AB 710, SB 440, AB 496 and the State Budget bills,
- Success in maintaining the County's ability to provide its own demographic projections for use in SCAG's Regional Transportation Plan and the Regional Housing Needs Assessment,
- Conducting an infill development capacity survey,

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- Embarking on the Homes for California Families Initiative, raising funds to conduct community dialogues regarding housing and to craft consensus-reflecting housing policies,
- Developing the Mixed-Use and Infill Development Toolkit and Video,
- Receiving the Building Industry Associations "Ruby Slippers" Award for regional leadership in addressing the housing needs of Orange County,
- Coordinating input into the Regional Transportation Plan,
- Securing a Grant of \$900,000 from the Federal Government to "Reduce Orange County Congestion" (These funds are being distributed directly to Orange County agencies), and
- Through the OCCOG, appraising members of new air quality rules and providing input into the Air Quality Management Plan.

In addition to the above, the Division also functions to provide the traditional role of coordinating monthly general membership dinners where member cities can network with one another to discuss shared problems and identify common solutions.

The City has received their annual dues statement from the Division. Dues are due and payable within 90 days of adoption of the dues. Adoption occurred this year at the general membership meeting on January 13. Funds for the dues have been budgeted, and the payment can be processed by the City Administrator unless the Council would like to provide other direction.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**      **Receive and file.**

**ATTACHMENT:**      The Division's Annual Report

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ORANGE COUNTY DIVISION  
LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES

2004 ANNUAL REPORT

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The Orange County Division, League of California Cities is the only independent, self-funded Division in California. The Division, like the League of California Cities, was founded on the principle that communities, through their locally elected officials, can best decide how to provide critical local services.

The 2004 Annual Report provides a brief overview of recent accomplishments, and of the services and resources the Division provides its members. We welcome your feedback and encourage your participation in Division activities in 2005. This is your organization – it's up to you to build on these accomplishments.

Legislative Advocacy/Policy Development

- Served as Regional Representative coordinating coalition building, media events, public awareness, fundraising for CITIPAC, and legislative strategies, which resulted in the passage of Prop 1A, a historic measure to protect local government revenues.
- Coordinated April 29 CITIPAC fundraiser, which raised over \$40,000 for Prop 1A.
- Coordinated legislative efforts on key bills such as AB 1221, AB 710, SB 440, AB 496 and State Budget bills. These initiatives included writing position letters and working with the Advocacy Committee and legislative network staff to mobilize action on bills.
- Coordinated in-district and countywide legislative meetings with Orange County state and federal legislators.
- Met in Sacramento with legislators to advocate for Orange County cities on countywide issues.

Legislative Advocacy

Orange County cities raised more than \$300,000 for Prop 1A.

Orange County cities collected more than 5,000 signatures for Prop 1A.

- Prop 1A
- Advocacy Committee
- Regional Representative

**Value of Services:** Prop 1A is a historic measure that stopped the state's annual raids on municipal budgets. Cities will save millions of dollars with the revenue protection measure.

Educational Opportunities

- Coordinated the Orange County Leadership Symposium (OCLS), which provides a forum that fosters working relationships among leaders responsible for overlapping regional issues.
- After an election year, the Division hosts a New Council Orientation to educate newly elected council members about key aspects of being an elected official such as compliance with the Brown Act, the role of council members in labor relations, and effective media relations.
- Held nine General Meetings that included presentations on topical issues such as transportation funding and affordable housing as well as influential speakers such as Attorney General Bill Lockyer and Political Analyst Dan Walters.

Educational Opportunities

- OCLS
- General Meetings
- New Council Orientation

**Value of Services:** The Division provides and supports educational and training opportunities that would otherwise be unavailable to elected officials to keep their knowledge of events and issues as current and relevant as possible.

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### Appointments & Opportunities

- Coordinated numerous City Selection Committee meetings to make appointments to nine county and regional boards, commissions, and agencies including OCTA, SCAQMD, LAFCO and the Airport Land Use Commission.
- Coordinated eight Orange County policy committee appointments for the State League of California Cities and provided staff support to ensure representation of Orange County cities.
- Coordinated 16 Division appointments to various boards, commissions and agencies.

### Coordination of Appointments and Support of Delegates

- City Selection Committee
- State League Policy Committees
- Division Appointments

**Value of Services:** The Division's support of appointees decreases or even eliminates the burden on individual city resources and enhances the effectiveness of Orange County delegates on regional boards.

### Outreach/Networking

- Raised more than \$35,000 in sponsorships to support Division events and general meeting speakers.
- Coordinated a bi-monthly newsletter which includes informative articles written by Orange County legislators, public agencies, and cities.
- Maintained the Division website which is a resource for information about general meetings, appointment opportunities, legislation, event announcements and much more.
- Published the City Directory consisting of pertinent information for cities, board of supervisors, Orange County legislators, public agencies, municipal associations and the State League of California cities. The City Directory sold 67 copies to the public sector covering the costs of providing the directory free of charge to cities.
- Coordinated three Orange County press conferences for Prop 1A.
- Produced six editorial and three letter to the editor pieces on important Orange County issues for the Orange County Register, Los Angeles Times, and various city newspapers.

### Outreach/Networking

- Outreach to community partners
- Newsletter
- Website
- City Directory
- Media Relations

**Value of Services:** On behalf of cities, the Division raises awareness among community partners, the state and federal delegations, and the general public about the value of city services. This awareness contributed to the nearly 84% support of Prop 1A in the November election.

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## ORANGE COUNTY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

The Orange County Council of Governments (OCCOG) is a voluntary association that represents local governments and member special districts in Orange County. The largest single-county council of governments in California, OCCOG was formed by a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with a diverse membership of 55 Orange County agencies including all 34 cities, the county and 20 special districts. OCCOG is supported through in-kind contributions and project specific grant monies. OCCOG services are part of the value of Division membership.

### Housing & Community Development

- Orange County is the only subregion in Southern California to prepare its own demographic projections that are then incorporated into the Regional Transportation Plan and the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) at the regional level. City agencies use this data for preparing general plans and capital improvement programs. Even businesses within Orange County use these projections for planning purposes and economic development. The cities' share of this effort is \$85,000 annually for which OCCOG has been successful in securing grants that pay the entire city share.
- Conducted an infill development capacity survey, resulting in an Infill Capacity Report identifying available land for infill development.
- Embarked upon the Homes for California Families Initiative, raising funds to conduct community dialogues regarding housing and to craft consensus-reflecting housing policies.
- Developed the Mixed-Use and Infill Development Toolkit and Video for member agencies use in understanding and designing mixed-use and infill development.
- Received the Building Industry Association of Southern California, Orange County Chapter's "Ruby Slippers" Award for regional leadership in addressing the housing needs of Orange County.

### Housing & Community Development

- Demographics
- Inter-regional Partnership
- RHNA
- Growth Visioning

Value of Services: \$345,000

### Transportation

- Coordinated input into the Regional Transportation Plan with the Orange County Transportation Authority to ensure the adoption of \$15.8 billion for the Orange County region.
- Secured Reduce Orange County Congestion program funding to pass through \$900,000 directly to Orange County agencies.

### Transportation

- Regional Transportation Plan
- Reduce Orange County Congestion

Value of Services: \$900,000

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### Environmental

- Kept OCCOG member agencies appraised of new air quality Rules and provided Orange County input into the most recent Draft of the Air Quality Management Plan. OCCOG staff played a significant role in the development of the draft model air quality element.
- Provided access to \$7 million in funding to OCCOG member agencies within the Rivers & Mountains Conservancy territory.
- Secured federal funding for member agencies for the Healthy Waterways Initiative, which will provide water quality educational materials to assist cities and member agencies with NPDES mandates.
- Provided OCCOG member agencies access to an alternative fuel vehicle and infrastructure specialist at no cost to the agencies.

### Environmental

- Air Quality
- Rivers & Mountains Conservancy
- Water Quality
- Alternative Fuel Vehicles

Value of Services: \$375,000

### Outreach/Networking

- Developed federal relationships and created a federal presence.
- Supported elected officials appointed to regional boards such as the AQMD, SCAG and RMC. Provided staff assistance that would otherwise be unavailable to the delegates.

### Outreach/Networking

- Federal Presence
- Staff support to regional appointees
- Newsletter
- Website
- OCCOG Guide

Value of Services: Reduces or eliminates the burden on cities and city staff.

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**Total Division Dues: \$322,000**

**Value of Services Provided by the Division: \$1,620,000,**  
plus reduced strain on city resources and staff, increased effectiveness of Orange County local, regional, state and federal elected officials and delegates, and development of partnerships and networks that help Orange County cities respond to future challenges.

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For more information, please contact the  
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